

therefor -- Con II or Super Controller Model A --.

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In The Claims

Amend claim 1 as follows:

-- 1. (Amended) A progressive accumulator for use in a progressive jackpot gaming system in which a plurality of gaming machines are adapted to receive coins-in and to have one or more [associated] jackpot groups whose respective jackpot values are determined based upon the coins-in and the jackpot-wins at the gaming machines, said gaming machines developing coins-in information including information related to each coin-in and jackpot-win information including information related to each jackpot-win and being adapted to make said coins-in information and said jackpot-win information available to the accumulator; the accumulator comprising:

a real time clock;

[and] means responsive to [jackpot-win information from the gaming machines and to] said real time clock: for receiving said coins-in and jackpot-win information from said gaming machines; for electronically tagging each jackpot-win in said jackpot-win information with a time and date of receipt; and for establishing jackpot values for said gaming machines based on said coins-in information and said jackpot-win information;

means for storing each said electronically tagged jackpot-win;

and means for enabling said established jackpot values to be made available for supply to said gaming machines. --.

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Delete claim 2.

Amend claim 3 as follows:

-- *2s.* (Amended) A progressive accumulator in accordance with claim [2] 1 wherein:

said jackpot-win information includes for each jackpot-win in said jackpot-win information identification of the jackpot group won;

and said means for storing stores [table includes] the jackpot value corresponding to each [set of] stored electronically tagged jackpot-win [information].

Claim 4, line 3, delete "the".

Amend claims 5, 6 and 7 as follows:

Claim 4
4s. (Amended) A progressive accumulator for use in a progressive jackpot gaming system in which a plurality of gaming machines are adapted to receive coins-in and to have one or more [associated] jackpot groups whose respective jackpot values are determined based upon the coins-in and the jackpot-wins at the gaming machines, said gaming machines developing coins-in information including information related to each coin-in and jackpot-win information including information related to each jackpot-win and being adapted to make said coins-in information and said jackpot-win information available to the accumulator; the accumulator comprising:

P first means [responsive to] for: receiving the jackpot-win information and the coins-in information developed by

the gaming machines; for developing [progressive] jackpot [amounts] values for said jackpot groups based on said coins-in information and said jackpot-win information; said first means including programming means containing a program for operating said first means and data storage means;

P | second means adapted to connect to an external device which is other than a gaming machine for allowing the external device to transmit messages to said first means for [changing] accessing said first means for preselected purposes [, said messages including device identification and a message type identification];

P | said first means [in response to each of said messages storing the device identification and message type identification in said data storage means] responding to a message for accessing said first means for a particular preselected purpose only if the message contains one or more of a device identification and a message identification;

P | and third means enabling said established jackpot values to be made available for supply to said gaming machines.

5. (Amended) An accumulator in accordance with claim 5
wherein:

P | said first means [fails to respond to messages for changing said first means unless the messages contain device identification] in response to a message stores in said storage

means the device identification and message type identification contained in that message.

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C6. (Amended) An accumulator in accordance with claim 5
wherein:

P1 said data storage means stores jackpot data for use by said first means in developing said jackpot values;

P1 [certain of] and said first means responds to messages [are] for [changing] accessing said first means for the purpose of gaining access to said jackpot data in said storage means and for the purpose of gaining access to said program [changing the configuration] of said programming means only if the messages contain both a device identification and a message identification.

Delete claim 8.

Amend claims 9-16 as follows:

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C7. (Amended) A progressive accumulator for use in a progressive jackpot gaming system in which a plurality of gaming machines are adapted to receive coins-in and to have a plurality of [associated] jackpot groups whose respective jackpot values are determined based upon the coins-in and the jackpot-wins at the gaming machines, said gaming machines developing coins-in information including information related to each coin-in and jackpot-win information including information related to each jackpot-win and being adapted to make said coins-in information and said jackpot-win information available to the accumulator;

[said] the accumulator comprising:

P1 means for receiving said coins-in information and said jackpot-win information;

P1 [and] means responsive to said receiving means: for allocating the jackpot-win information to said jackpot groups; for permitting, but not requiring, allocation of the information in the coins-in information related to a particular coin-in to more than one but less than all of the jackpot groups; and for establishing a jackpot value for each particular jackpot group based upon the [received] coins-in information and jackpot-win information allocated to that particular jackpot group [, said means for establishing including means capable of allocating the coin-in information of a particular coin selectively to one or more of the jackpot groups];

P1 and means enabling said established jackpot values to be made available for supply to said gaming machines. ~~(-)~~ ⁷

~~(-)~~ 10. ⁸ (Amended) An accumulator in accordance with claim ~~10~~ wherein:

P1 said means responsive to said receiving means [for establishing] establishes a jackpot value for each particular jackpot group by [adding] summing a base jackpot amount [to] with a further jackpot amount which is based upon [the coins] each coin-in indicated by the information related to each coin-in contained in the coins-in information allocated to the particular jackpot group. ~~(-)~~

~~C-9~~ 11. (Amended) An accumulator in accordance with claim ~~10~~⁸

wherein:

P | said further jackpot amount for each particular jackpot group is determined by summing [adding an] increment jackpot amounts determined for [each] the indicated coins-in for that particular jackpot group. (--)

~~C-10~~ 12. (Amended) An accumulator in accordance with claim ~~11~~⁹

wherein:

P | said means responsive to said receiving means: [for establishing] determines from the information related to each coin-in contained in the coins-in information allocated to a particular jackpot group which one of a plurality of [increments] increment jackpot amounts is to be used for each indicated coin-in whose increment jackpot amount is to be summed to form said further jackpot amount for that particular jackpot group; and sums said determined increment jackpot amounts for the particular jackpot group to form the further jackpot amount for the particular jackpot group. (--)

~~C-11~~ 13. (Amended) A progressive accumulator for use in a progressive jackpot gaming system in which a plurality of gaming machines are adapted to receive coins-in and to have one or more [associated] jackpot groups whose respective jackpot values are determined based upon the coins-in and the jackpot-wins at the gaming machines, said gaming machines developing coins-in information including information related to each coin-in and

jackpot-win information including information related to each jackpot-win and being adapted to make said coins-in information and said jackpot-win information available to the accumulator, [said] the accumulator comprising:

P1 means for receiving coins-in information and jackpot-win information;

P1 and means responsive to said receiving means: for allocating the jackpot-win information and the coins-in information to the jackpot groups; for establishing a jackpot value for a particular jackpot group based upon the information related to each coin-in in the coins-in information and the jackpot-win information [associated with] allocated to that particular group, said establishing [means] including [further means capable of causing said] the capability of establishing [means to establish] at one of a plurality of levels the contribution of a particular coin-in to [the] a particular jackpot value [at one of a plurality of levels] depending upon the information in said coins-in information [corresponding] related to the particular coin-in;

P1 and means for enabling said established jackpot values to be made available for supply to said gaming machines.

C 12 14. (Amended) An accumulator in accordance with claim 13
wherein:

P1 each said level is a different increment jackpot amount;

P1 and said means responsive to said receiving means establishes [said establishing means determines said] each particular jackpot value by [adding to] summing with a base jackpot amount[, for each particular coin indicated by the associated coins-in information, a further] the increment jackpot amounts [equal to one of a plurality of increments] for the coins-in indicated in the information in said coins-in information allocated to a particular jackpot group[;]

[and said further means determines the increment to be used by said establishing means for each particular coin]. *(Amended)*

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15. (Amended) A progressive accumulator for use in a progressive jackpot gaming system in which a plurality of gaming machines are adapted to receive coins-in and to have one or more [associated] jackpot groups whose respective jackpot values are determined based upon the coins-in and the jackpot-wins at the gaming machines, said gaming machines developing coins-in information including information related to each coin-in and jackpot-win information including information related to each jackpot-win and being adapted to make said coins-in information and said jackpot-win information available to the accumulator, the [said] accumulator comprising:

P1 means for receiving coins-in information and jackpot-win information from said gaming devices,

P1 means responsive to said receiving means for establishing jackpot values for said jackpot groups based upon

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the coins-in information and jackpot-win information [associated with the groups];

P1 means for enabling said established jackpot values to be made available for supply to said gaming machines;

P1 a [jackpot] memory stack having a plurality of positions each for storing the information in said jackpot-win information [associated with] related to one jackpot-win;

P1 and means for clearing from said stack the [jackpot-win] information [associated with a won] related to a jackpot-win immediately and regardless of the position in said memory stack in which said information is stored [location of the jackpot-win information in the stack], upon receipt from the gaming machine at which the jackpot-win has [been won] occurred of a signal indicating that the jackpot-win has been cleared and for reshuffling the stack to [move jackpot-win] compress the information related to other jackpot-wins in the stack [to fill] and thus eliminate isolated empty stack positions.

4 ¹⁶ ₁₅. A progressive accumulator in accordance with claim ¹³ ₁₅ further comprising:

P1 means for transmitting the jackpot values established by said establishing means to said gaming machines;

P1 and means for inhibiting said transmitting means from transmitting to a gaming machine where a jackpot-win has occurred [group has been won of] the jackpot value [being established by said establishing means for said] of the jackpot group of the won

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jackpot until the [storage of the jackpot] information [of] related to the [won] jackpot-win stored in said stack has been cleared from said stack. *--*

Delete claim 17.

Amend claim 18 as follows:

15 18. A progressive jackpot gaming system comprising:

p1 a plurality of gaming machines adapted to receive coins-in and one or more having [associated] jackpot groups whose respective jackpot values are determined based upon the coins-in and the jackpot-wins at the gaming machines, said gaming machines [each] developing coins-in information including information related to each coin-in and jackpot-win information including information related to each jackpot-win and being adapted to make said coins-in information and said jackpot-win information available to a progressive accumulator;

p1 and a progressive accumulator responsive to said gaming machines for determining said jackpot values comprising: a real time clock; [and] means responsive to [jackpot-win information from the gaming machines and to] said real time clock: for receiving said coins-in and jackpot-win information from said gaming machines; for electronically tagging each jackpot-win in said jackpot-win information with a time and date of receipt; and for establishing jackpot values for said gaming machines based on said coins-in information and said jackpot-win information; means for storing each said electronically tagged jackpot-win; and

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means for enabling said established jackpot values to be made available for supply to said gaming machines. -1.

Delete claim 19.

Amend claims 20-31 as follows:

-- 16. 20. (Amended) A system in accordance with claim [19] 16

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wherein:

P1 said jackpot-win information includes for each jackpot-win in said jackpot win information identification of the jackpot group won and [the] identification of the gaming machine at which the win occurred;

P1 and said means for storing stores [table includes] the jackpot value corresponding to each [set of] stored electronically tagged jackpot-win information. --

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-- 17 21. (Amended) A progressive jackpot gaming system comprising:

P1 a plurality of gaming machines adapted to receive coins-in and one or more having [associated] jackpot groups whose respective jackpot values are determined based upon the coins-in and the jackpot-wins at the gaming machines, [each] said gaming machines developing coins-in information including information related to each coin-in and jackpot-win information including information related to each jackpot-win and being adapted to make said coins-in information and said jackpot-win information available to a progressive accumulator;

P1 and a progressive accumulator responsive to said gaming

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machines for developing said jackpot values comprising: first means [responsive to] for: receiving the jackpot-win information and the coins-in information developed by the gaming machines; for developing [progressive] jackpot [amounts] values for said jackpot groups based on said coins-in information and said jackpot-win information; [,] said first means including programming means containing a program for operating said first means and data storage means; second means adapted to connect to an external device which is other than a gaming machine for allowing the external device to transmit messages to said first means for [changing] accessing said first means for preselected purposes [,said messages including device identification and a message type identification]; [and] said first means [in response to each of said messages storing the device identification and message type identification in said data storage means]

responding to a message for accessing said first means for a particular preselected purpose only if the message contains one or more of a device identification and a message identification; and third means enabling said established jackpot values to be made available for supply to said gaming machines.

18 *22.* (Amended) A system in accordance with claim *21*

wherein:

P1 said first means [fails to respond to messages for changing said first means unless the messages contain device identification] in response to a message stores in said storage

means the device identification and message type identification
contained in that message. (-:)

~~19~~ 25. (Amended) A system in accordance with claim ~~22~~ 18

wherein:

P1 said data storage means stores jackpot data for use by
said first means in developing said jackpot values;

P1 [certain of] and said first means responds to messages
[are] for [changing] accessing said first means for the purpose
of gaining access to jackpot data in said storage means and for
the purpose of gaining access to said program [changing the
configuration] of said programming means only if the messages
contain both a device identification and a message
identification. (-:)

~~20~~ 24. A progressive jackpot gaming system comprising:

P1 a plurality of gaming machines adapted to receive
coins-in and one or more having a plurality of [associated]
jackpot groups whose respective jackpot values are determined
based upon the coins-in and the jackpot-wins at the gaming
machines, [each] said gaming machines developing coins-in
information including information related to each coin-in and
jackpot-win information including information related to each
jackpot-win and being adapted to make said coins-in information
and said jackpot-win information available to a progressive
accumulator;

P1 and a progressive accumulator responsive to said gaming

machines for developing said jackpot values comprising: means for receiving said coins-in information and said jackpot-win information; [and] means responsive to said receiving means: for allocating the jackpot win information to said jackpot groups; for permitting, but not requiring, allocation of the information in the coins-in information related to a particular coin-in to more than one but less than all of the jackpot groups; and for establishing a jackpot value for each particular jackpot group based upon the [received] coins-in information and jackpot-win information allocated to that particular jackpot group [, said means for establishing including means capable of allocating the coin-in information of a particular coin selectively to one or more of the jackpot groups]; and means enabling said established jackpot values to be made available for supply to said gaming machines.

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- 25. (Amended) A system in accordance with claim 24

wherein:

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p1 said means responsive to said receiving means [for establishing] establishes a jackpot value for each particular jackpot group by [adding] summing a base jackpot amount [to] with a further jackpot amount which is based upon [the coins] each coin-in indicated by the information related to each coin-in contained in the coins-in information allocated to the particular jackpot group. 22

- 26. (Amended) A system in accordance with claim 25

wherein:

1 said further jackpot amount for each particular jackpot group is determined by summing [adding an] increment jackpot amounts determined for [each] the indicated coins-in for that particular jackpot group. --

23 21. (Amended) A system in accordance with claim 26

wherein:

1 said means responsive to said receiving means: [for establishing] determines from the information related to each coin-in contained in the coins-in information allocated to a particular jackpot group which one of a plurality of [increments] increment jackpot amounts is to be used for each indicated coin-in whose increment jackpot amount is to be summed to form said further jackpot amount for that particular jackpot group; and sums said determined increment jackpot amounts for the particular jackpot group to form the further jackpot amount for the particular jackpot group. --

24 28. (Amended) A progressive jackpot gaming system comprising:

1 a plurality of gaming machines adapted to receive coins-in and having one or more [associated] jackpot groups whose respective jackpot values are determined based upon the coins-in and the jackpot-wins at the gaming machines, [each] said gaming machines developing coins-in information including information related to each coin-in and jackpot-win information including

information related to each jackpot-win and being adapted to make said coins-in information and said jackpot-win information available to a progressive accumulator;

p1 and a progressive accumulator responsive to said gaming machines for developing said jackpot values comprising: means for receiving coins-in information and jackpot-win information; [and] means responsive to said receiving means: for allocationg the jackpot win information and the coins-in information to the jackpot groups; for establishing a jackpot value for a particular jackpot group based upon the information related to each coin-in in the coins-in information and the jackpot-win information [associated with] allocated to that particular group, said establishing [means] including [further means capable of causing said] the capability of establishing [means to establish] at one of a plurality of levels the contribution of a particular coin-in to [the] a particular jackpot value [at one of a plurality of levels] depending upon the information in said coins-in information [corresponding] related to the particular coin-in; and means for enabling said established jackpot values to be made available for supply to said gaming machines. --.

-- 25. (Amended) A system in accordance with claim 28

wherein:

p1 each said level is a different increment jackpot amount;

p1 and said means responsive to said receiving means

establishes [said establishing means determines said] each particular jackpot value by [adding to] summing with a base jackpot amount[, for each particular coin indicated by the associated coins-in information, a further] the increment jackpot amounts [equal to one of a plurality of increments] for the coins-in indicated in the information in said coins-in information allocated to a particular jackpot group[;]

[and said further means determines the increment to be used by said establishing means for each particular coin].

E *26* *30.* (Amended) A progressive jackpot gaming system comprising:

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P | a plurality of gaming machines adapted to receive coins-in and having one or more [associated] jackpot groups whose respective jackpot values are determined based upon the coins-in and the jackpot-wins at the gaming machines, [each] said gaming machines developing coins-in information including information related to each coin-in and jackpot-win information including information related to each jackpot-win and being adapted to make said coins-in information and said jackpot-win information available to a progressive accumulator;

P | and a progressive accumulator responsive to said gaming machines for developing said jackpot [vlaues] values comprising: means for receiving coins-in information and jackpot-win information from said gaming machines; means responsive to said receiving means for establishing jackpot values for said jackpot

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groups based upon the coins-in information and jackpot-win information [associated with the groups]; means for enabling said established jackpot values to be made available for supply to said gaming machines; a [jackpot] memory stack having a plurality of positions each for storing the information in said jackpot-win information [associated with] related to one jackpot-win; and means for clearing from said stack the [jackpot-win] information [associated with a won] related to a jackpot-win immediately and regardless of the position in said memory stack in which said information is stored [location of the jackpot-win information in the stack], upon receipt from the gaming machine at which the jackpot-win has [been won] occurred of a signal indicating that the jackpot-win has been cleared and for reshuffling the stack to [move jackpot-win] compress the information related to other jackpot-wins in the stack [to fill] and thus eliminate isolated empty stack positions.

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27 *31. (Amended) A system in accordance with claim 30* *26*

wherein:

P1 said accumulator further comprises: means for transmitting the jackpot values established by said establishing means to said gmaing machines; and means for inhibiting said transmitting means from transmitting to a gaming machine where a jackpot-win has occurred [group has been won of] the jackpot value [being established by said establishing means for said] of the jackpot group of the won jackpot until the [storage of the

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jackpot] information [of] related to the [won] jackpot-win stored in said stack has been cleared from said stack. --)

Delete claim 32.

Amend claim 33 as follows:

-28. A method for use in a progressive jackpot gaming system in which a plurality of gaming machines are adapted to receive coins-in and to have one or more [associated] jackpot groups whose respective jackpot values are determined based upon the coins-in and the jackpot-wins at the gaming machines, said gaming machines developing coins-in information including information related to each coin-in and jackpot-win information including information related to each jackpot-win and being adapted to make said coins-in information and said jackpot-win information available; the method comprising:

P1 receiving from said gaming machines said coins-in and jackpot win information;

P1 developing said jackpot values for said gaming devices] machines using said received coins-in information and jackpot-win information;

P1 [and] electronically tagging each jackpot-win in said received jackpot-win information from the gaming machines with a time and date of receipt;

P1 storing each said electronically tagged jackpot-win; and enabling said developed jackpot values to be made available to said gaming machines. --.

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(1) Delete claim 34.

(2) Amend claims 35-46 as follows:

-- *(35.)* (Amended) The method in accordance with claim [34] *(35.)* *(28)*

wherein:

P | said jackpot-win information includes for each jackpot-win in said jackpot-win information identification [one or more] of the jackpot group won and [the] identification of the gaming machine at which the win occurred;

P | and said storing step further [table] includes storing the jackpot value corresponding to each [set of] stored electronically tagged jackpot-win [information]. *(-35.)*

(1) *(36.)* (Amended) A method for use in a progressive jackpot gaming system in which a plurality of gaming machines are adapted to receive coins-in and to have one or more [associated] jackpot groups whose respective jackpot values are determined based upon the coins-in and the jackpot-wins at the gaming machines, said gaming machines developing coins-in information including information related to each coin-in and jackpot-win information including information related to each jackpot-win and being adapted to make said coins-in information and said jackpot-win information available the method comprising:

P | receiving from said gaming machines said coins-in and jackpot-win information;

P | using programming means containing programs for operating a first means and using data storage means contained in

said first means, developing with [progressive] said first means said jackpot [amounts] values for said jackpot groups from said received jackpot-win information and coins-in information;

P | allowing an external device which is other than a gaming machine to transmit messages to said first means for [changing] accessing said first means for preselected purposes [, said messages including device identification and message type identification];

P | [and storing the device identification and message type identification in said messages in said data storage means] permitting said first means to respond to a message for accessing said first means for a particular preselected purpose only if the message contains one or more of a device identification and a message identification;

P | and enabling said developed jackpot values to be made available to said gaming machines. ~~(Amended)~~

~~31~~ 31. (Amended) A method in accordance with claim ~~38~~ 30 wherein:

P | said [developing step is unaffected by messages for changing said means unless the messages contain device identification] permitting step includes storing the device identification and message identification contained in a message.

~~32~~ 32. (Amended) An method in accordance with claim ~~38~~ 31 wherein:

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P1 said data storage means stores jackpot data for use in said developing step;

P1 [certain of said] and said permitting step is carried out by permitting said first means to respond to messages [are] for [changing] accessing said first means for the purpose of gaining access to said jackpot data in said storage means and for the purpose of gaining access to said program [changing the configuration] of said programming means only if the messages contain both device identification and a message identification. *E-2*

A9 *G 33* *30.* (Amended) A method for use in a progressive jackpot gaming system in which a plurality of gaming machines are adapted to receive coins-in and to have a plurality of [associated] jackpot groups whose respective jackpot values are determined based upon the coins-in and the jackpot-wins at the gaming machines, said gaming machines developing coins-in information including information related to each coin-in and jackpot-win information including information related to each jackpot-win and being adapted to make said coins-in information and said jackpot-win information available, said method comprising:

P1 receiving said coins-in information and said jackpot-win information;

P1 allocating the jackpot-win information to said jackpot groups;

P1 permitting, but not requiring, allocation of the

information in the coins-in information related to a particular coin-in to more than one but less than all of the jackpot groups;

P | [and] establishing a jackpot value for each particular jackpot group based upon the [received] coins-in information and jackpot-win information allocated to that particular jackpot group[, said establishing including allocating the coin-in information of a particular coin selectively to one or more jackpot groups];

P | and enabling said established jackpot values to be made available to said gaming machines. ~~32~~

~~C- 34~~ 40. (Amended) A method in accordance with claim ~~39~~ ³³

wherein:

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P | said step of establishing [establishes] a jackpot value for each particular jackpot group is carried out by [adding] summing a base jackpot amount [to] with a further jackpot amount which is based upon [the coins] each coin-in indicated by the information related to each coin-in contained in the coins-in information allocated to the particular jackpot group. ~~35~~

~~C- 35~~ 41. (Amended) A method in accordance with claim ~~40~~ ³⁴

wherein:

P | said further jackpot amount for each particular jackpot group is determined by [adding an] summing increment jackpot amounts determined for [each] the indicated coins-in for that particular jackpot group. ~~36~~

~~C- 36~~ 42. (Amended) A method in accordance with claim ~~41~~ ³⁵

wherein:

P1 said establishing step includes [determines]:
determining from the information related to each coin-in
contained in the coins-in information allocated to a particular
jackpot group which one of a plurality of [increments] increment
jackpot amounts is to be used for each indicated coin-in whose
increment jackpot amount is to be summed to form said further
jackpot amount for that particular jackpot group; and summing
said determined increment jackpot amounts for the particular
jackpot group to form the further jackpot amount for the
particular group. --.

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-- 43. (Amended). A method for use in a progressive jackpot gaming system in which a plurality of gaming machines are adapted to receive coins-in and to have one or more [associated] jackpot groups whose respective jackpot values are determined based upon the coins-in and the jackpot-wins at the gaming machines, said gaming machines developing coins-in information including information related to each coin-in and jackpot-win information including information related to each jackpot-win and being adapted to make said coins-in information and said jackpot-win information available, said method comprising:

P1 receiving coins-in information and jackpot-win information[.]i

P1 allocating the jackpot-win information and the coins-in information to the jackpot groups;

P1 [and] establishing a jackpot value for a particular jackpot group based upon the information related to each coin-in in the coins-in information and the jackpot-win information allocated to [associated with] that particular group, said establishing including the capability of further establishing at one of a plurality of levels the contribution of a particular coin-in to [the] a particular jackpot value [at one of a plurality of levels] depending upon the information in said coins-in information [corresponding] related to the particular coin-in;

P1 and enabling said established jackpot values to be made available for supply to said gaming machines. *(--)*

A9 *38.* *44.* *(Amended)* A method in accordance with claim *43* *37*

wherein:

P1 each said level is a different increment jackpot amount;

P1 said establishing step includes [determines said] determining each particular jackpot value by [adding to] summing with a base jackpot amount[, for each particular coin indicated by the associated coins-in information, a further] the increment jackpot amounts [equal to one of a plurality of increments] for the coins-in indicated in the information in said coins-in information allocated to a particular jackpot group. *(--)*

A9 *39.* *(Amended)* A method for use in a progressive jackpot gaming system in which a plurality of gaming machines are adapted

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to receive coins-in and to have one or more [associated] jackpot groups whose respective jackpot values are determined based upon the coins-in and the jackpot-wins at the gaming machines, said gaming machines developing coins-in information including information related to each coin-in and jackpot-win information including information related to each jackpot-win and being adapted to make said coins-in information and said jackpot-win information available, said the method comprising:

P1 receiving coins-in information and jackpot-win information from said gaming devices,

P1 establishing jackpot values for said jackpot groups based upon the coins-in information and jackpot-win information [associated with the groups];

P1 enabling said established jackpot values to be made available to said gaming machines;

P1 providing a [jackpot] memory stack having a plurality of positions each for storing the information in said jackpot-win information [associated with] related to one jackpot-win;

P1 and clearing from said stack the [jackpot-win] information [associated with a won] related to a jackpot-win immediately and regardless of the [location of the jackpot-win information in the stack] position in said memory stack at which said information is stored, upon receipt from the gaming machine at which the jackpot-win has [been won] occurred of a signal indicating that the jackpot has been cleared and reshuffling the